

this matter—not by sending a “walking delegate” nor a talking delegate, but by sending an intelligent and honest committee to look into and about the place, they will then demand of civic authorities more money and better administration, with the penalty of the loss of votes if the demands are not promptly and properly granted. Then a great change will come over the whole scene and so far from being the place of last resort in the darkest hour it may be the most obvious place of refuge in any time of disaster or illness. Then, oh unions, there will be those, outside your ranks who will rise up and call you blessed!

Now, this is a serious suggestion. The unions have entered politics. They have elected a Mayor and he has appointed other union men to city offices. In the doing of this the unions have put themselves in a position where they are open to criticism quite as much as does any man who enters the same field. The man must stand or fall according as his acts are good or bad. This has been shown so often in American politics that it needs no illustration. The unions are subject to the same inevitable law. If they reach out for what is the best, “the greatest good of the greatest number” they will stand more firmly day by day. If they are too short-sighted to see this, they will certainly fall, no matter what their numerical strength, for a time will come when opposition will arise, even in the union ranks. At present they are in the flood tide. Can they be wise?

The management of a hospital may seem a small matter compared with getting some offices or striving to control the business of employers; but there is no time when a man—union man or non-union man—wants care and assistance more than when he has to go to a public hospital, a place in which he is simply “a case.” That man wants the hospital to which he has to go conducted on the lines of the broadest humanitarianism, and according to the most approved hospital methods. He is not then interested in the politics of the superintendent or nurse, but he is in their efficiency as hospital officers. He would much prefer that his personal enemy provided good milk rather than to have his friend getting fat on a contract by scamping that article; and the same is true of every phase of the matter.

It is plain, too, that the unions are near to the hospital; some of their members may not be thrifty enough to profit by the present flush times, or these times may not last and may be succeeded by days of little work and reduced pay. In those days the sub-union man may not be alone in the hospital. It is not enough that the unions employ a physician on contract to dose them. That work, cheaply paid for, is always done in much the same way, and besides, the physician's contract does not include the providing of food, light and fuel. When these are lacking, the hospital looms up.

It is an opportune time for the unions to think of this. They have power now, let them take up the matter of the City and County Hospital; let them take it up in a broad and understanding way, not in the conventional union way. Let them ask those of their membership who have been in the hospital how they fared; let them send one or two presidents of unions there to try the place practically. Out of these investigations and experiments should come a call, expressed in no uncertain terms, for a bettering in buildings, food and attendance. The exclusion of politics should be demanded and the most rigorous civil service methods should be installed and kept there. The unions should see first, that provision is made in the hospital for unfortunate union and sub-union men, as individual union men would like to make for themselves in their own homes. The unions can easily do all of this. Will they do it?

REGISTER OF PHYSICIANS.

Preliminary notices will soon be sent out concerning data for the forthcoming Register of Physicians. In order that the Register may contain the name of every physician in the State, it will be necessary for those receiving the information cards to fill them up carefully and return promptly. There is a vast amount of work to be done and it is the intention to have it done systematically and thoroughly; but much depends on individual interest on the part of the practitioners themselves. A reference book has most value in accuracy. If each doctor will see to it that his own record is furnished without error, then he may be certain that his name, address and dates of certificates will be given correctly.

RECIPROCITY.

Members of the State Society may contribute in certain ways toward the material support of the JOURNAL, and do so with perfect propriety. The JOURNAL is as much the property of one member as it is of another. There is no good reason why members of the Society should not exert themselves to upbuild their own publication. If you do not find the advertisements of firms with which you deal in the JOURNAL, probably the dealers would advertise in it if the matter be called to their attention. This is no begging proposition, by any means; the JOURNAL gives the best possible value in the way of circulation—and particularly in the character of its circulation. The State Society is not asking for contributions—only reciprocity.

DEATH.

Dr. Clinton Henry Lubbock died at his home in Alameda, May 21, 1903, after suffering paresis for several months. Dr. Lubbock was born in Texas in 1861. Took degrees from College Medicine State Missouri, and Med. Dept. University City, New York.